Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1.   (currently amended) A ~~user interface~~ method ~~that displays a hierarchy of an attribute in a tree format for the purpose of applying values to objects represented by the members of the attributes in the hierarchy~~ for applying and editing attributes of data stored in a hierarchical database comprising:

(a) creating said hierarchical database, wherein data stored in said database is represented by members organized in hierarchical manner, said members including a parent member at the top of said database, said parent member having one or more descendant members;

(b) displaying said parent member and one or more decision attributes associated with said parent member, and wherein descendant members of said parent member are assigned the decision attributes of said parent member;

(c) displaying said descendant members of said parent member;

(d) selecting one or more of said descendant members and editing a decision attribute of said selected descendant members, and wherein said edited decision attribute is automatically applied to all direct descendants of said selected descendant members; and

(e) displaying a summary view showing said parent member and said selected descendant members having an edited decision attribute.

2.   (currently amended) The method of claim 1 including the step of ~~applying more than one type of value to objects represented by the members of the hierarchy~~ hiding all direct

descendant members of said descendant members not selected for editing a decision

attribute.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~objects represented by more than one attribute hierarchy are incorporated into one virtual hierarchy by inserting other attribute hierarchies into the primary hierarchy to create one virtual hierarchy~~ said decision attribute is a pricing factor of a product or service represented by said database.

4. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~1 wherein values applied to objects represented by a higher hierarchy member in a tree are applied further on down the tree only to objects represented by members that are neither rebels, i.e. the user has not applied values to directly to members, nor direct descendants of rebels~~ 3 wherein said pricing factor is a percent discount, percent markup or percent margin.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~including the feature of canceling user's application of values to a member in the tree~~ wherein said decision attribute is a source of goods or services, a supplier's name or shipping carrier code.

6. cancelled

7. cancelled